

TRIBUTE TO SYLVIA AND  
LEROY FLEMING

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two individuals whose ongoing dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California have been exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Sylvia and Leroy Fleming are two of these individuals. On September 23, 2008, the Temescal District Boy Scouts of America will host the 2008 Distinguished Citizens Dinner in honor of Sylvia and Leroy.

Sylvia has lived in Corona since 1947 and attended Corona schools including St. Edward Catholic School and Corona Senior High School where she graduated with the class of 1962. Leroy came to California from Iowa in 1963. Sylvia and Leroy met while attending Chaffey College and they were married August 1, 1964. Leroy worked for the Orange County Food Service until Sylvia opened the Via-Ery Park N' Eat Catering in 1974 with two trucks. They now load 60 catering trucks serving the Inland Empire.

Sylvia has been involved in the community for many years. She was president of Triple M, a previous branch of the Women's Improvement Club, a commissioner for the Corona Parks and Recreation, and served on the board of the Corona-Norco PTA Council. She also served as Chairman of the Board for the Foundation for Community Health and was a member of Soroptimist International of Corona where she served as President. Sylvia is the recipient of the Status of Women Award and Women Helping Women Award. She was also a member of the St. Edward School Board and received the Seton award from the Diocese of San Bernardino. Another award Sylvia has received is the Distinguished Graduate Award from the National Catholic Educational Association. Sylvia is a Eucharistic Minister for St. Edward Catholic Church and a member of the Catholic Daughters. She is owner of Sylvia's treasures, a business that donates all profits to charity.

Leroy as well has been involved in Corona for several years; he is a member of the Corona Host Lions where he has served as President. He has received the Outstanding Member of the Year Award and Lion of the Year Award. Leroy is instrumental in securing most of the food for the annual Pancake Breakfast held in September. In 2003, Sylvia and Leroy received the Citizens of the Year Award from the Corona Chamber of Commerce. Leroy and Sylvia are also members of the Navy League of Corona and Leroy spends a significant amount of time raising funds for various charitable organizations. Sylvia and Leroy have three children, two sons-in-laws and six grandchildren.

Sylvia and Leroy's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. I am proud to call Sylvia and Leroy fellow community members, Americans and friends. I know that many community members

are grateful for their service and salute them as 2008 Distinguished Citizens.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ROCKFORD BURNS  
CLUB

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor today the oldest, continuous social organization in Rockford, Illinois—the Rockford Burns Club—which will celebrate its 150th anniversary on November 5, 2008. The Rockford Burns Club is one of the oldest Burns Clubs in the United States that was established to honor Scottish heritage and, specifically, the great poet, Robert Burns. Not only are his works historically important but Robert Burns is the quintessential symbol of Scotland and the Scottish people, many of who emigrated to the United States for greater opportunities.

There are approximately 4.8 million Americans of Scottish descent—nearly as many as live in Scotland today. Their independent spirit continues to contribute enormously to the growth and well-being of the United States. Many Scottish-Americans played a formative role in the political and economic development of this Nation, including several of our Founding Fathers, such as Thomas McKean of Pennsylvania, the Reverend John Witherspoon of New Jersey, and Alexander Hamilton of New York; and the inventor of the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell.

The Rockford Burns Club fosters this creative spirit by reminding us what is best about Scottish culture, including the literary contributions of Robert Burns. I salute the current leadership of the Rockford Burns Club for their efforts to keep this tradition alive, and I wish them every continued success for at least another 150 years.

CONGRATULATING THE SAN LUIS  
OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, SLOCOG, on its 40th anniversary. SLOCOG was established in 1968 as an area-wide planning and coordinating council responsible for a wide variety of transportation, housing, water and sewer, open space and other programs in San Luis Obispo County. SLOCOG served as the overseer of the region by adopting an area-wide infrastructure plan.

In 1973, SLOCOG became a Regional Transportation Planning Agency and developed the region's first Regional Transportation Plan. Its plan addressed all modes of transportation, and it has continually updated the community schematic to address the changing needs and priorities of the area. In 1978,

SLOCOG was designated the lead agency responsible for complying with the provisions of the 1977 Federal Clean Air Act and subsequently adopted the region's first air quality attainment and monitoring plan.

Following the enactment of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, ISTEA, SLOCOG expanded significantly in order to develop a comprehensive, interconnected, intermodal transportation system in the county. The agency then developed the region's first compliance plan for the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Beginning in 1993, SLOCOG prepared the region's first Federal Transportation Improvement Program, FTIP, and has updated the plan every 2 years to address the changing community needs and to ensure San Luis Obispo County's infrastructure conforms to Federal policies. Demonstrative of SLOCOG's ability to handle a big workload: the most recent FTIP consisted of 99 construction projects.

In 1998, following enactment of the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century, TEA21, the role of SLOCOG as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region was reinforced through the continued emphasis on the intermodal planning process established in ISTEA.

Examples of SLOCOG's hard work and dedication to transportation needs are clear across San Luis Obispo County. SLOCOG has developed a regional network of bikeway and pedestrian facilities, which serve all areas of the county. It has also created a comprehensive community public transit system that serves all seven cities and unincorporated urban areas. SLOCOG improved passenger rail facilities throughout the region, and enhanced aviation service in the region with new and improved passenger airline safety equipment and facilities. SLOCOG has also worked cooperatively with local jurisdictions, Caltrans and other agencies to successfully plan and design construction of many major surface transportation system improvements.

The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments has given the county of San Luis Obispo 40 years of dedicated service. I commend SLOCOG for its service to San Luis Obispo County residents in making their daily commutes and drives a little more pleasant and a little bit quicker because of well planned and executed transportation projects, programs, and policies.

COMMENDING THE HONOR FLIGHT  
NETWORK

SPEECH OF

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1287—Commending the Honor Flight Network.

The Honor Flight's mission is to provide an all expenses paid trip for WWII veterans to Washington, DC, to visit the memorial that has been dedicated to honor their service and their sacrifices for our country.

Unfortunately, we are losing "The Greatest Generation" with every passing day, and many are not able to have the opportunity to